

REPORT

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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

FREE-MARKET PRICES LOWERED

SOME PRICES HALVED - Rude Pravc, No 129, 1 Jun 49

Beginning 1 June the prices of several articles on the free market will be lowered. Some of the new prices are as follows:

<u>Goods</u>	<u>Old Price</u> <u>(in crowns)</u>	<u>New Price</u>
Man's wool suiting, per meter	2,550	1,850
Man's wool suiting, per meter	2,000	1,234
Man's wool overcoat material, per meter	3,650	2,130
Women's wool coat material, per meter	4,670	2,755
Down quilt	17,500	10,340
Man's long-sleeved shirt	922	722
Woman's woven shirt	369	289
Woman's jersey union suit	586	320
Woman's pajamas	1,540	1,040
Wool astrakhan for children, per meter	3,800	809
Children's coat material, per meter	1,460	810
Man's suit	4,120	3,020
Man's overcoat	8,780	6,460
Man's overcoat	5,920	4,360
Man's winter coat	7,160	5,200
Man's winter coat	5,700	4,200
Woman's skirt	1,020	760
Woman's jersey outfit	4,680	2,620
Shoes for a 3-year-old child	441	263
Baby shoes	280	133
Child's low shoes	818	446
Woman's handmade leather shoes	2,350	1,309
Chausis slippers	1,202	672
Woman's slippers with leather soles	1,943	1,080
Man's leather shoes	2,108	1,564
Man's hand-made leather shoes	4,650	3,450
Man's tennis shoes	233	137

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CLASSIFICATION

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<u>Goods</u>	<u>Old Price</u>	<u>New Price</u>
	<u>(in crowns)</u>	
Woman's tennis shoes	194	114
Man's sport bicycle, "Eska"	4,480	3,455
Woman's sport bicycle, "Eska"	4,615	3,555
Touring bicycle, "Tripol"	4,295	3,310
Child's bicycle, "Premier"	3,346	2,705
Child's metal scooter	626	518

The prices of cameras have been reduced, generally by more than 50 percent. Ten more ration points have been made valid and may be used for all clothing and footwear. In addition, the 30 points which had been made valid for only certain types of clothing and shoes are now good for all outer clothing. Seventy more points have been released also for outer clothing, making a total of 100 points which are now valid for outer clothing and shoes, and 50 which are good for all clothing regardless of type. It should be emphasized that the shops are well enough supplied to handle this new demand.

The prices of a number of foods on the free market were also reduced.

The price of gasoline mixture for pleasure vehicles has been lowered to 50 crowns per liter.

SALES WELL ATTENDED - Rude Pravo, No 130, 2 Jun 49

Lines of people were waiting even before the stores opened the morning of 1 June to buy goods at the newly lowered prices.

In the first 3 hours of sale the OP clothing outlet on Hybernska Street in Prague took in more than a half million crowns. Great interest was shown in bicycles, but the greatest demand was for shoes, which in many cases cost one third less than before.

The Bila Labut department store had 50,000 customers, three times as many as usual. The store took in 15 percent more than usual.

The turnover of shoes was 400 percent greater than in the previous week. In ready-made clothing the turnover was 136 percent of the previous week's, and sales of yard goods increased by 760 percent.

Only one or two cameras are usually sold daily in the Bila Labut. On 1 June, 14 were sold. Thirty-nine bicycles were sold, as against 8 to 12 per day before prices were lowered.

The sale went smoothly, and there were no long lines. This is a good sign, since it indicates that customers realize that if they do not get their goods today they will be able to buy them tomorrow.

Rude Pravo, No 131, 3 Jun 49

Reports are coming in from all parts of the country telling of the great interest in the new sale of goods at lower prices. In Usti nad Labem the free sale of textiles has amounted to 300,000 crowns since 1 June, and in Litomerice 100,000 crowns. In the morning of the first day of the sale in Roudnice nad Labem 105,000 crowns were spent on textiles. In Ceske Budejovice the largest sale was of canned fish from Holland, which had been reduced in price from 90 crowns to 34 crowns. Fifteen hundred cans of fish had been received earlier by the store, which was unable to sell them. In the Brouk a Babka outlet in Brno, 550,000 crowns were spent on women's underwear and men's shirts, out of a total turnover of 700,000.

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PRICES OF PIGS DETERMINED - Lidova Demokracie, No 113, 1 May 49

The following are the average market prices of pigs as of various dates in 1949, expressed in crowns per kilogram of live weight:

<u>Type</u>	<u>1 Apr</u>	<u>1 Mar</u>	<u>1 Feb</u>	<u>1 Jan</u>
Suckling pigs under 15 kg	96.7	95.1	90.5	85
Suckling pigs from 15 to 25 kg	83.3	81.3	78.4	74.8
Pigs over 25 kg	55	54.4	54.1	51.8

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